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CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY AustriaREPORT NO. TOPIC Soviet Troops in Traiskirchen, Kaisersteinbruch, St. Puelten

618428

including Camp Spratzern and Mauer Gabling.EVALUATION 25X1XPLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 22 March 1954

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

SOURCE

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1. On 19 February 1954, four lieutenant colonels wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, 11 majors wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery insignia, and four majors wearing black-bordered black epaulets walked toward the former Bundeserziehungsanstalt in Traiskirchen (O 49/X 37). Numerous officers and some soldiers wearing unidentified insignia were on their way between this and the opposite building. Jeep driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets, which came from the direction of Baden (O 49/X 37), parked in front of the latter building. An undetermined number of motor vehicles, and an undetermined number of 57-mm AT guns were stored in some reconstructed garages on the installation. At least five four-wheeled armored scout cars and 20 trucks were also stored at the installation. Motor vehicles observed there included jeep driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets; and ambulance and all driven by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Thirty-four soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying field packs, who were supervised by a major wearing red-bordered black epaulets, received combat training on the drill ground.

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2. On 15 February 1954, 34 trucks, but no weapons were observed in Cantonment No 1 in Kaisersteinbruch (P 48/X 67) which was guarded by a sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The stables in the cantonment housed horses whose attendants wore black-bordered red epaulets. Trucks each driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets, arrived from the direction of Wilfleinsdorf (P 49/X 67) and entered the cantonment. Motor vehicles parked in front of the installation included ambulance driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets, sedan / occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black, and black-bordered red, epaulets, and truck driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets, which had come from the direction of Bruck / Leitha (P 49/X 77). Eight model 1938 122-mm field howitzers and at least 30 trucks were on the hill east of the cantonment. About 60 soldiers trained with mortars at the east slope of the hill. Six mortars were identified by their barrels. Other soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery insignia, and carrying four aiming-circle mounts and four small sheet-metal cases marched to the cantonment from the east. One lieutenant colonel wearing black-bordered red epaulets, two lieutenant colonels wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia,

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and two majors wearing black-bordered black epaulets, who approached from the direction of Goetzendorf (P 49/X 57) in a horse-drawn vehicle, entered Cantonment No 2, which was guarded by a sentry wearing black-bordered red epaulets. 2

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[redacted] three jeeps [redacted] driven by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, parked in front of the former district court building in St. Pölten (O 49/W 83) which was guarded by a sentry wearing black-bordered red epaulets. Eighteen soldiers uncoupled two ZIS-3 76-mm field guns from trucks [redacted] driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets and pulled the guns to the garages west of the former district court building, which was guarded by a sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets worked on square timber in the Eugen Kaserne, whose courtyard stored two ponton carriers, one tank truck and one amphibian jeep. Motor vehicles observed in the courtyard of the Rainer Kaserne included 5 trucks, 3 tank trucks, 2 weapon carriers, and 5 motorcycles with sidecars. Soldiers reeled up telephone wires in the Franz Josef Kaserne. Motor vehicles observed at the gate at the Franz Josef Kaserne, which was guarded by a sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets, included [redacted]

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4. On 18 February 1954, vehicles in the area of the former regional insane asylum in Mauer Oehling (O 49/W 26) included 45 trucks, 3 jeeps, 2 field kitchens and an estimated 10 other trucks. Several soldiers maintained the motor vehicles stored, some of which were blocked up. About 50 soldiers organized in squads drilled without rifles in the hospital yard. Forty-eight soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, carrying rifles and spades, and commanded by two majors wearing red-bordered black epaulets did spadework and 16 other soldiers practiced firing with rifles in the training ground northeast of the hospital. Motor

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25X1A 2. [] Comment. The 122-mm field howitzers and trucks on the hill east of the cantonment were mentioned in several previous reports. It is fairly definitely believed that the field howitzers and, presumably, the trucks, too, belong to the 32d Gds How Arty Regt which is assumed in Kaisersteinbruch. The soldiers observed at training with mortars presumably belong to the 654th Gds Mort Regt (US), whose location is still undetermined, but possibly is Goetzendorf. It is believed that the terrain between Kaisersteinbruch and Bruck on the Leitha River occasionally is also used for training by units from Goetzendorf. It is unknown to which unit the horses in the stables of Cantonment I belong; they were possibly put in there by the directing center for recruits from the USSR and discharges which is assumed in Cantonment II.

25X1A 3. [] Comment. Several previous reports mentioned ZIS-3 76-mm guns in the garages west of the former district court building. They presumably belong to the 103d Gds AT Arty Bn assumed in St. Pölten. The Prinz Eugen Kaserne is occupied by the 109th Gds Engr Bn. The Franz Josef Kaserne quarters the 140th Gds Sig Bn. The occupation of the Rainer Kaserne was not definitely determined. The 150th Tank SP Regt is carried at Camp Spratzern, and the T-34/85 tank observed in the camp is also believed to belong to this unit. Almost all motor-vehicle [] from St. Pölten including Camp Spratzern belong to the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div. [] []

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